

side of the aisle says let's not pay our bills; but we do say, just like every family does when their credit card bill comes and it is a little higher than they expect, well, let's see how we can maybe save some money. Cut up the credit cards and maybe find a way to bring in some more money.

Mr. Speaker, we can bring in more money with economic growth and economic development. Curtailing things that are killing economic development, like the President's health care plan and excessive regulation, must be stopped. We have to stop spending, and we have to increase our revenue by growing our economy.

#### MERCY FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, over the past 16 days, many of us have risen to this floor and pleaded with our friends on the other side of the aisle and asked for mercy, not mercy for our individual selves as Members of Congress, but mercy for the American people, for the 800,000 over the past 16 days who have lost their jobs in furloughs, for the \$300 million a day that this Nation has lost. This is the very answer to those who are suggesting that we are spending too much money, Mr. Speaker: we have lost money.

But today I come humbly to plead with my friends to do as the Chaplain mentioned this morning, to have a generosity of spirit and recognize that we can come together. Let the voices of common sense recognize that States like Mississippi, Louisiana, Arizona, South Dakota, Missouri, Texas, New Mexico, Montana, Georgia, New York, and Wyoming—States that represent so many—are losing so much because they get the most money from this Nation.

Then let us recognize Juanita Davis with little Tu'Nita, 10 days old, who is fearful that her WIC money, Women, Infant, and Children money, in the State of Texas is running out. I am pleading that we come together with common sense and generosity of spirit and put this bill on the President's desk.

#### SPINNING GOP WHEEL OF MISFORTUNE

(Mr. DEUTCH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, once again the GOP has threatened the full faith and credit of the United States. Rejecting all warnings from top economists and business leaders, some of my Republican colleagues have actually claimed that default would be good for our economy; but the truth is, when you spin the GOP wheel of misfortune, everyone loses.

How would a GOP default that deprives seniors of Social Security

checks be good for our economy? How would a GOP default that pits foreign investors against America's disabled veterans be good for our country? How could ruining the U.S. Treasury bond status as the world's safest asset and hiking interest rates on American families be good for our economy? How could stopping payments for the doctors and nurses who care for Medicare beneficiaries be good for our economy?

Mr. Speaker, the answer is that it can't be. The Treasury can't pick and choose which commitments to honor, nor should it have to.

When you spin the GOP wheel of misfortune, there are only losers. Americans are disgusted when reckless games are played with our economic future. Be responsible, finally. Today, vote to reopen the government and prevent a default.

#### PRESIDENT'S HEALTH CARE PLAN IS BROKEN

(Mr. HARRIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, the President's health care plan is broken. Let me read from some of the letters and communications my office is getting from around my district.

Mike and Pat in Queen Anne's County write:

Mr. Harris, my daughter's health care premium just rose \$648 a year thanks to the Affordable Care Act. Don't you or other Republicans give up the fight.

Cindy from Talbot County writes:

I have just discovered that I can't keep the medical insurance I have had for many years as it no longer exists thanks to ObamaCare. Even though I am 58 years old, I must pay for maternity benefits and pediatric dentistry when I have no child under 19. I get an increased deductible and a premium increase of \$143 a month. What a mess that needs to be fixed and in a hurry.

Finally, Lorraine from Queen Anne's County writes that, in tears, she called our office. She was told by her insurer that her premium was just increased \$256 a month. Her total payment that she and her husband now are going to pay is \$956 a month, and her insurer told her that it went up because of ObamaCare.

Mr. Speaker, the President's health care plan is broken.

#### JUST HOURS REMAIN UNTIL NATION DEFAULTS

(Mr. BARBER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you on this, the 16th day of the shutdown, with just hours remaining until our Nation defaults. The only way to end this crisis is for Members on both sides of the aisle to come together and take bipartisan action today. We need to do our job, and we

must act responsibly. The Senate has a bipartisan plan, and we should take it up immediately.

At home and across the Nation, the people we represent are facing harsh consequences: from the couple being denied a loan for their first home, to the Head Start kids whose school doors are shut, to the businesses with lost sales because national parks are closed, to the Border Patrol agent who can't pay his mortgage because his full paycheck hasn't come.

Mr. Speaker, we must vote for commonsense solutions. We must end this shutdown. We must restore faith in the United States of America, and we must restore faith in this, the people's House.

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#### OBAMACARE

(Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, we are all getting calls in our offices as to the impact of ObamaCare on average Americans. Here is an example from just this morning:

A female, aged 23, making below the D.C. poverty level per year. She currently pays \$94 a month for her health care insurance. She went on the ObamaCare Web site just to find out that it would cost her \$250 a month, with a \$6,000 deductible.

Folks, the impact of ObamaCare on average Americans is why ObamaCare should be a part of this spending-and-debt debate here in Washington.

#### GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

(Mr. CICILLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise with a sense of cautious optimism that we are nearing the end of this financial crisis. Our colleagues in the Senate are showing all of us that we can have disagreements on the issues and still work together to find common ground to tackle the challenges facing our Nation.

After so many weeks of this painful and unnecessary Federal Government shutdown, I urge all of my colleagues in the House to come together to support the commonsense, bipartisan Reid-McConnell proposal emerging from the Senate.

The past few weeks have taken away valuable time and attention from the many challenges facing our country. Once we reopen the government and avoid default, I hope that all of us will redirect our energies toward building consensus on solutions for comprehensive immigration reform, rebuilding our roads, bridges and ports, growing our economy, reducing our debt in a responsible way, and, most urgently, promoting job creation.